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March 12, 1975

Joshua Lederberg, Ph.D.
Stanford University
Department of Genetics
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

We have read with interest the recent New York Times report about the international conference of biologists at Pacific Grove and your dissent from some of the conclusions of that conference. If you would be agreeable to undertaking a magazine article setting forth your views, we would be most interested in the possibility of publishing it. Before discussing that proposal, however, let me say a few words of background about this publication.

Prism was started two years ago by the AMA as a forum for the discussion of those major social, ethical and economic issues in which medicine increasingly finds itself involved. We are published monthly and are circulated to approximately 200,000 physicians throughout the United States. Although we are an AMA publication, we are not bound by organization policy and, in fact, welcome a wide spectrum of opinion.

Your colleague Arthur A. Kornberg, M.D. was kind enough to do an article for us in 1973 on scientific research, and we have also published a very interesting interview with James D. Watson, Ph.D. on genetic research. We would very much welcome the pleasure of having you as a Prism contributor.

Enclosed you will find a copy of our March 1975 issue in which there is an article (pages 20-23) by Garrett J. Hardin, Ph.D. which stemmed from the Berg Committee Report, and it is our thought that you might be willing to enlarge the dialogue which Dr. Hardin began by setting forth your own views. If the New York Times report is correct, I infer that you are opposed to safeguards on the ground that they are virtually unenforceable.

You doubtless have other reasons for your conclusions, and I know that our wide physician audience would be most interested in them and would benefit from hearing about them. What I have in mind would be a manuscript of approximately 2,500 words, and we could offer you a payment of \$1,000 for it. I would suggest a deadline of May 15, but that could be extended somewhat if you would prefer to do so.

Perhaps when you have had an opportunity to consider this proposal, you would be



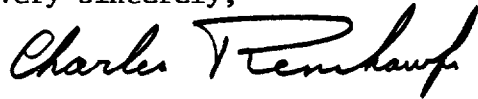
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kind enough to let me know your reaction. I do hope that you will want to go ahead with the article because I think that it could be a most important one, and it would certainly be a pleasure to work with you.

With all good wishes,

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles C. Renshaw, Jr.".

Charles C. Renshaw, Jr.
Editor
Prism Magazine

CCR/csw
Enc.